

A

REVIEW

OF THE

Affairs of *FRANCE*:

With Observations on TRANSACTIONS at Home.

Saturday, April 14. 1705.

I Cannot but think I have Convinc'd the Thinking part of the World, that we have in *England*, no want of Work for our Poor, but a want of Poor for our Work.

I will not say, but our Poor may be ill-sorted in *England*, too many in one Work, too few in another; too many in our Manufactures, and too few in our Husbandry; too many in our Corporations, and too few in the Country; too many on Shore, and too few in our Ships: But of this by it self.

Nor will I affirm, but in Extraordinary Cases, such as the Stop of this or that Manufacture; a Fashion, a War, a Popular Humour, a General Mourning, of which we have had too many needless ones, or any other Accident of Trade, there may be a want of Work in this or that particular Trade; as in a Mourning, the Silver-Spinners, Wire-Drawers, and Lacemen, &c. may want Work, or in case of a Stop of the *Turkey* Trade, the Scarlet-Dyers would do the same; and the like.

But in general, the height of Wages is a proof that there is more Work in *England*, than there are Hands to perform it.

I come now to prove, That this Price of Labour, is the vast Hinge on which the Wealth of the Nation turns; and that it cannot be the Interest of *England* to reduce it.

First, By the Rate of Labour, the Poor are

Enabled to live in *England* in a posture Equal to the Midling Tradesmen in other Countries; that many of them do not, is owing to the Luxury and Extravagance of our People: Of which, I shall have Occasion to speak at large.

But if any Man will permit himself to Examine how well those People may Live, and how well some of them do Live, who are good Husbands, and regard their Families, who only by their Handy labour, as Journey-men, can Earn from 15 s. per Week, to 30 s. per Week Wages, as Thousands of Artisans in *England* can; if any Man please to Compare these People, 'tis plain the Dearthness of Wages forms our People into more Classes than other Nations can shew.

These Men Live better in *England*, than the Masters and Employers in Foreign Countries can; and you have a Class of your Topping Workmen in *England*, who being only Journey-men under Manufacturers, are yet very substantial Fellows; Maintain their Families very well, have good Things about them, and Enjoy a Plenty unknown in Foreign Countries.

To reduce these to Wages just sufficient for Life, would be a Diminishing the Publick Wealth to a Degree unexpressible, and Robbing *England* of the Peculiar, which is her Honour,

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hour,

nour, that her Poor Live better than in any Part of the World.

But this is not all: If you reduce the Rate of Wages in *England*, you, of Course, reduce the Price of Provisions, or else you Starve the Poor; if you reduce the Price of Provisions, you reduce the Rent of Lands, or else you Starve the Farmer, and Ruine the Tenants; if you reduce the Rent of Lands, you of Course sink the Value; and thus, at once, you Weaken your General Stock, lower the Estates of all the Gentry in *England*, and sink the whole Freehold of the Nation.

Now let us Examine here two Things:

1. What Proportion these Things will bear to one another; and whether the Advantage will be an Equivalent to the Damage: And,

2. By what Methods Trade can make us amends for the Loss on our Free-hold.

1. As to the Proportion, let us state it fairly: To reduce the Price of our Manufactures a little, will not answer the End; to reduce it a great deal, will Ruine it; but it will be allow'd, that to reduce it effectually, it must be brought to an Equality, at least, with those that attempt to Rival it.

Suppose then to reduce our Manufacture 10 per Cent. in Value, that is to sink the Price 10 per Cent.

First, 'Tis plain, this must lie all on the Wages, for on the Ingredients, or Materials,

it cannot lie; 10 per Cent. on the Value at Market, plac'd on the Materials, would be 50 per Cent. and could not be, but on the Labour it would lie; and this 10 per Cent. on the Value, would be on the Labour 15 per Cent. at least.

15 per Cent. on the Labour of the Manufacturer, amounts to about an Eighth part of their Wages; let us trace this in its Natural Progress, this must sink Provisions an Eighth part, and that the Rent of Farms; and thus the whole Nation is at one Blow, an Eighth part less worth than they were before; he that has 800 Pounds a Year, has now but 7; he that had 8 Score Pounds a Year, has now but 7; and so in every thing.

Let us proceed to another Terrible Consequence of this, which perhaps every Body does not foresee; as this Low'ring the Wages of the Poor will sink the Free-hold of *England*, so the Publick Charge being the same, and the Value less; that is to bear it, the Nation will be Burthen'd Intolerably

From whence will proceed two fatal Articles.

1. We shall not be able to raise those Powers, or appear so formidable in the World, as now we do.

2. Our Esteem Abroad, and the Figure we shall make in the World, will sink in proportion, and the Effects of that may be Innumerable.

ADVICE from the Scandal. CLUB.

THESE Ladies are strange Creatures, said the Society (*Reading the following Letter*) when they come to ask hard and close Questions.

To the Gentlemen of the Scandal. Club.

S I R S,

I Am a Young Woman, who have been highly Educated, and so Tenderly brought up by my Parents, that since their Decease, with the Misfortune of a Bad Husband, who has left me, I am altogether incapable of getting my Livelihood; and consequently am reduced to great Streights: Now here lies the Case; I have Two Admirers, who equally promise to Assist me, and Court me to keep them Company (I hope not Uncivilly.) The first is a Young Man that I did truly Love before Mar-

riage; the other a Person, whose Love is the firmest of the Two; and (I am certain) would do the most for me; but then, on the other hand, I don't Affect him with that Veneration as I do the former. Your Advice would be very acceptable in this case; Whether I should please myself, in Obliging the former, without much Profit, (for I fear he'll be but an Ordinary Benefactor;) or, reject him for the sake of the latter, of whom I have received Considerable Favours, and that in an Innocent way of Kindness, which I can't promise my self the like from the other? Pray be pleas'd to give me your Opinion in your next Review: And you will infinitely Oblige,

March 14.
1703.

Your humble Servant,

L. C.
Pardon

Pardon the Society, Madam, if they cannot help passing some severer Censure on your Letter, than you might Imagine; and if they Wrong you, they are very sorry for it.

In short, they perceive by your Letter, that having some Inclination to be Wicked, you desire to know, Whether you should pursue your Inclination or your Interest? Whether you should take the Man you have some Kidness for? Or him you shall get most Money by?

To Justifie this Censure, your own Words put together, seem to Lead to it; for that you own you have most Inclination to the first, tho' at the End of your Letter, you say, You cannot promise your self an Innocent Conversation with him; this, they think, needs no Comment.

Their Advice therefore, in short, is, That if you have any regard to your Reputation, and any Design to preserve your Vertue, (supposing you have it to preserve) you would please to let them both alone, till you can link your self with Honour and Safety, to some or other that may Cover your Reputation, and Relieve your Wants.

THE following Doubt, had some appearing Difficulties in it, which being Examind, are made Easie, as follows.

S I R S,

Being something surprized this Morning, by a Gentleman's Informing me, that I was under a Mistake, in observing Easter on the 8th Instant; whereas it ought to have been observed on the 1st Day of this Month, according to our standing Rules appointed in our Common-Prayer Books; which Assertion, I find (in my Opinion) to be true, but am not willing to rely on it, until I have the Judgment of your Society, which is very much Esteemed by,

Easter-Monday, Gentlemen,
Rainbow Coffee-house, near Gray's. Your Humble Servant,
Inn-Gate, Holburn and Admirer,
W. B.

Your Speedy Answer is humbly desired in your Review.

To this the Society Answer: It is true, that according to the Express Letter of the Tables of Feasts, set down in the Rules before the Common-Prayer; 'tis said thus

"Easter-Day (on which the rest depend) is always the first Sunday after the first Full-Moon, which happens next after the 21st of March; and if the Full-Moon happens upon

"a Sunday, Easter Day is the next Sunday after."

By this Calculation 'tis true, Easter-Day this Year ought to have been upon the first of this Month.


But then the Customary Calculation, which (as we Conceive) has been from the first Day of Lent, resolves it for the eighth, as follows.

"Shrove-Sunday, is always the next immediate Sunday, after the Second New-Moon which shall happen after New-Years-Day; and that Day Seven Weeks, always Easter-Day."

Here the Difficulty is Sol'd: What Reason there is for the Disagreement between the Practice, and the Direction, the Society are not able to Determine——But this, they presume, they may say without Reflection, That this Uncertainty of Times, is apt to take off from the Respect People might pay the Observation of those Days, and ought to have some further Examination, by that Authority to whom it belongs.

THE Reader is Desir'd to prepare, not to be too much Surpriz'd at an Unusual Digression in our next.

A Gentleman, who Wrote a very Civil Letter, about the Wollen Manufacture, Sign'd A. B. C. is Desir'd to signify how he may be Wrote to.

 PROPOSALS (different from all others yet publish'd) for a Perpetual Assurance Office: Wherein either SEX may Subscribe, and by Paying 6l. per Annum, secure an equal Dividend of 10000 l. at their Deaths, which in all probability cannot amount to less than 500 Pounds, or a much greater Sum, to any Person they shall Name, besides 3 l. out of every 6 l. which they shall have Paid, together with other Advantages (during Life) which will reduce every Member's Yearly Payment to less than 40 s. Subscriptions are taken, and Proposals at large given gratis, by J. Matthews a Printer, and Mr. Sambridge, in Little-Brittain; Mr. Barnes's, in Pall-Mall; Mr. Nutt, near Stationers-Hall; Mr. Strahan and Mr. Davis in Cornhill; Mr. Hodgson's in Holborn; Mr. Barker in Westminster-Hall; and Mr. Cox, at Temple-Bar, Booksellers. (Note, That no Money is to be Paid, till the Society be full, and Security given.) Against which, if any Subscriber shall object, he shall be at Liberty, whether he will stand to his Subscription, or not.

These are to give Notice, That Susannah Kyrlews Relict of Dr. Tho. Kyrlews, a Collegiate Physician of London, and Sworn Physician in Ordinary, to King Charles II. is THE Person that

sells.

sells (rightly prepar'd) his Famous Drink and Pill, which is eminently experinc'd to cure all Ulcers, Sores, Scabs, Itch, Scurfs, Scurvies, Leprosies, Venereal and French Disease, Running of the Reins, and all such Malignities, tho' never so inveterate, in all Constitutions, at all Seasons of the Year, hindering no Business, without Sweating, Smoaking, Fluxing, or the use of Mercury, which generally raises the Malignity, fixing it in the Head, from whence it is not easily carried off, but destroys many. These excellent Medicines have cured many after Fluxing; and in Compassion to the Distressed, will deal with all according to their Abilities. The Drink is 3 s. the Quart, the Pill 1 s. the Box, with Directions. She gives her Opinion for Nothing, to all that write or come to her. She lives at the Glass-Lantern in Plough-Yard, Gray's-Inn-Lane.

ADVERTISEMENT.

THE Royal Effence for the Hair of the Head and Perriwigs, being the most delicate and charming Perfume in Nature, and the greatest Preserver of Hair in the World, for it keeps that of Perriwigs (a much longer time than usual) in the Curl, and fair Hair from fading or changing colour, makes the Hair of the Head grow thick, strengthens and confirms its Roots, and effectually prevents it from falling off or splitting at the ends, makes the Powder continue in all Hair longer than it possibly will, by the use of any other thing. By its incomparable Odour and Fragancy it strengthens the Brain, revives the Spirits, quickens the Memory, and makes the Heart cheerful, never raises the Vapours in Ladies, &c. being wholly free from (and abundantly more delightful and pleasant than) Musk, Civet, &c. 'Tis indeed an unparalleled fine Scent for the Pocket, and perfumes Handkerchiefs, &c. excellently. To be had only at Mr. *Allart's*, a Toyshop at the Blue-Coat Boy against the Royal Exchange in Cornhill. Sealed up, at 2 s. 6 d. a Bottle with Directions.

COSMETICON: A most Excellent Wash to Beautifie the Face, &c. rendering the Skin surprisingly white and clear: It takes away all Hardness, Tan, Sunburn, or other Discolourings: All Morpewes, Scurfs, Freckles, Lentils, &c. tho' of never so long standing, speedily heals chop'd Lips, Pimples, or other Breakings-out in the Skin, after an admirable manner. Gives such a delicate, pure, clear, natural lustre to the Face and Hands, &c. that nothing in Nature can possibly exceed it; yet leaves no darnish, but is wholly free from all pernicious Ingredients, as Mercury, &c. being pure sweet, clean, harmless and transparently clear; 'tis found, by many Years Experience, to make the Skin so incomparably pure, fine and soft, and so free from all Defilements and Defects whatsoever, that it leaves no room for any thing of the like kind to come after it. For Bruises by Falls, &c. Aches and Pains even of the Gout or Rheumatism, it's a present Sovereign Remedy. Sold at Mr. Steven's a Tin-shop next the Three Nuns near Salisbury-Court in Fleet-street, and at Mr.

Parker's Bookseller, at the Leg and Star in Cornhill, over against the Royal-Exchange, at 3 s. 6 d. a Bottle, with Directions.

THE Universal Cordial Anodine Powder, being a Speedy Remedy against all Sharp Pains, inward or outward; as Fevers, Agues, Gout, Stone, Colick, Fistula's, Diabetes, Plurifies, and the Small-Pox, when they need to be kept full; it wonderfully facilitates the Chirurgeon's Work in curing of Wounds and Ulcers; it doth not trouble Nature, as Purging and Vomiting do, but helps it insensibly by Perspiration; it is very good for Travellers both at home and abroad; for Masters of Ships that go into hot Countries, where Fevers are so frequent; as also for the Army. It is likewise of excellent use to Children breeding of Teeth. To be had of Joseph Star at his House over against the Royal-Exchange in Cornhill, London, (who, with his Friends, have had very great Experience of it for above three Years past.) And of such Persons as he shall appoint in City and Country. Sealed up with his Coat of Arms, being a Cheveron between three Stars: Each single Bottle containing 25 Grains, and the double 50. Price 3 s. and 10 s. with Directions for taking it. The Publisher of this Noble Medicine, will be ready to wait on any Persons to give them Satisfaction about it.

Just Publish'd,

A General Bill of Mortality of the Clergy of London, who were Defunct by reason of the Contagious Breath of the Sectaries of that City, from the Year 1641, to the Year 1647, with the several Casualties of the same: Or, A brief Martyrology and Catalogue of the Learned, Grave, Religious and Pious Ministers of the City of London, who were Imprisoned, Plundered, Barbarously used, and deprived of all Livelihood for themselves and their Families in the abovesaid Years: For their Constancy in the Protestant Religion Establish'd in this Kingdom, and their Loyalty to their Sovereign. Reprinted in the Year 1705. by way of Moderation. Price 2 d.

This Day is Publish'd,

Lives English and Foreign: Containing the History of the most Illustrious Persons of our own and other Nations, from the Year 1559, to the Year 1690. By several Hands; who have been assisted in the Work with many private Memoirs. In two Volumes in 8vo. The English Lives are, William Lord Burleigh, Sir Walter Raleigh, George Duke of Buckingham, Marquess of Montrose, Oliver Cromwell, Duke of Hamilton, General Blake Duke of Albemarle, Earl of Shaftsbury, Duke of Marlborough. Printed for B. Tooke, at the Middle-Temple Gate in Fleet-street; and W. Davis, at the Black-Bull in Cornhill; and sold by J. N. near Stationers-Hall.

THE Golden Odoriferous Essence, a most Consummate and Perfect Cephalick: Nothing yet known, that gives speedier, or more certain Help in all Pains of the Head and Vapours, &c. or more Pleasure in the Using. Sold by Samuel Saunders, Periwig-Maker, in Star-Court in Cheapside near the Conduit. Price One Shilling the Bottle.